In Makaram 1103

Candies 11-0-15-0 of teak at Rs. 26-8-0 a candy.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—May I know what was the price for the 180 candies of teak sold to Mr. V. K. Ammunni Menon?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—Rs. 17 per candy.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—How much was he to take under the contract?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—180 candies.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Under the contract? He has taken 180. Was not the contract for thousand candies?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—It was not a contract. It was an ordinary sale.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—What was the objection for furnishing information required in parts (2) (a) and (b)?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—There is some correspondence going on about that.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—What is the objection to state whether the Conservator had reduced the price in the settlement of accounts?

It is a fact which has already taken place. Any correspondence can only change what has already been done. What is the objection to state whether the Conservator reduced the price from Rs. 35 to Rs. 17 per candy, whether Diwan's sanction was obtained for the same?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—No reduction has been effected.

Applications for B. Form Passes.

96. **Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.**—(a) (1). In the matter of the B. Form passes for the removal of timber and fuel issued from the Southern Divisional Forest Office, will the Government be pleased to state during the years 1102, 1103 and 1104 the total number of applications for such passes;

(2) the average number of days taken in the office before they were sent down for inquiry;

(3) the average number of days taken for inquiry and report; and

(4) the average number of days allowed for the transit by the office;

(b) what are the objections to empower the Forester to give the passes direct by him to the parties without returning the same to the office;

(c) were the renewals of time allowed for these passes by the office; if so, in how many such cases; and what was the average time allowed on renewal;

(d) (1) in the matter of the transit of fuel, how is the quantity fixed in the form; (2) if only half a cart-load is carried

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at a time under a pass what is the provision to remove the balance;

(e) what is the objection to allow a longer period for transit than it is allowed now?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—(a)

1102	1103	1104
64	85	167
2	1	1
7	16	18
2.5	2.5	1

(b) In all sub-divisions except Kodasseri the passes are issued to the parties direct by the Foresters though the parties are put to some inconvenience on account of the Foresters being away from head-quarters. The head-quarters of the Kodasseri Forester is Pariyaram where the Divisional Forest Office is situated. The passes after enquiry by the Forester are obtained in the Divisional Office and are kept countersigned by the Divisional Forest Officer or his Executive Assistant. When the parties appear in office, they are issued according to requirements. This has been the practice here, even before the formation of the Divisions. Especially when the petition covers several passes and produce of different kind the present procedure will suit the parties. Further, when the Divisional Forest Officer is to countersign such passes, the Foresters' checking and enquiry will be more effective and the irregularities more minimised than in the cases of direct issue by Foresters. It has to be mentioned in this connection that such Foresters whose head-quarters are the station in or near which the Divisional Forest Office is held are not authorised to issue *viseshal* passes. The reason for not authorising them to issue *viseshal* passes holds good for not asking the Kodasseri Forester to countersign B. Form passes.

(c) (1). Yes.

(2). In 9 cases in 1102, 7 cases in 1103 and 6 cases in 1104.

(3). 9½ and 18 days in 1102 and 1103 respectively. For 1104, the information is not available, but it is less than the time originally granted.

(d) (1). Each cart-load should be covered by a single pass.

(2) The pass-holder is bound to transport the full quantity as per a pass issued. If, however, for unforeseen reasons he was not able to remove the full quantity and if it is found on enquiry that he has removed only half a cart-load as per a pass issued, for one cart-load, *viseshal* pass will be issued

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for the balance after time extending the original pass if necessary.

(e) The transport rules in force and the circular orders of the Conservator of Forests do not allow the same.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—The answer to (c) (3) and (a) (4) will show that the time granted was 9 1/2 and 18 days in 1102 and 1103 respectively and the average number of days allowed for transit were 2.5, 2.5 and 1. So in 1104 less than a day was allowed, as the time originally granted was 1 day.

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—It is only the average.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Is there any complaint that the time allowed for these passes is too short generally?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—There is no general complaint.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Was there not a proposal even in 1924 that these B. form passes should be changed, and were not criticisms also invited by the Government to change the conditions of the B. form passes?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—I don't remember.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—If the President permits me to speak, for the information of the House I may say that in 1924 criticisms were invited and I sent some and I brought it to the notice of the House during successive budget meetings. The Secretary to the Diwan, Mr. Vengu Ayyar, said that Government had not properly considered about it and that it would be published soon. It is two years now. I was one to send the criticisms invited by the Department even in 1924.

President.—Is it under consideration now?

Dr. A. G. Menon.—It was stated then that it was with the Government and not with the Conservator.

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—I am not sure. It is still there.

President.—This is a matter to be urgently disposed of. Please attend to it.

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—Yes, Sir.

Felling, collection, etc., of timber.

97. Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) when the tender was invited on 8th Mithunam 1103 for the felling, collection and loading of the teak and rose-wood trees in D1, D3, D11, D4, D6, and D10 coupes and behind C1 coupe, were all the trees marked; (b) what was the reply given to the Diwan by the Conservator of Forests when the former asked for the marking list; (c) from where did the Conservator

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